

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 20, 26, 27, and 28, and added new claims 29-61, each of which includes subject matter that the Examiner has noted to be allowable. Claims 2-4 were previously canceled. Thus, the pending claims are claims 1 and 5-61, of which claims 1, 20, 26-29, 35, and 38 are in independent form.

Claims 1, 5-7, 19, 27, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by either U.S. Pat. No. 1,899,657 issued to Zademach ("Zademach"), U.S. Pat. No. 1,943,755 issued to Taylor ("Taylor"), or U.S. Pat. No. 2,229,610 issued to Nicholoy ("Nicholoy"). But neither Zademach nor Tayloy nor Nicholoy discloses or suggests a wall being arranged to lengthen a flow path of a cleaning fluid, and to direct the flow path across ribs, as claimed.

Therefore, Applicants request that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 8 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Zademach, Taylor, or Nicholoy in view of either U.S. Pat. No. 2,967,530 issued to Shoemaker et al. ("Shoemaker") or U.S. Pat. No. 4,351,733 issued to Salzer et al. ("Salzer").

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 10-13 and 15-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Zademach, Taylor, or Nicholoy in view of either Shoemaker or Salzer, and in further view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,841,116 issued to Klein et al. ("Klein").

For at least this reason and the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 20-23 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over either Zademach, Taylor, or Nicholy in view of Klein.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 25 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over either Zademach, Taylor, or Nicholy in view of Klein, and further in view of Salzer.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 14 and 24 have been objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. However, the Examiner has noted that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicants have added new claims 29-37. Claims 29 and 35 are in independent form and include all of the limitations of claims 14 and 24, respectively, including their base claims and all intervening claims. Claims 30-34, 36 and 37 depend from claim 29 or 35.

Thus, Applicants request the allowance of new claims 29-37.

Applicants have also added new claims 38-47. Claim 38 is in independent form and includes the subject matter of original claim 10, which the Examiner noted, in our recent interview, is allowable over the cited art. In addition, new claim 38 clarifies that the cleaning device is configured to clean a cutter head of a shaving apparatus. New claims 39-47 depend from new claim 38.


Therefore, Applicants submit that new claims 38-61 are allowable over the cited art.

Finally, Applicants have added new claims 48-61, each of which depends from amended claim 26, 27, or 28. Therefore, Applicants submit that new claims 48-61 are allowable over the cited art.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$852 in payment of excess claims fees. Please apply any other charges, or any credits, to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 28, 2004



Michael R. Hamlin
Reg. No. 54,149

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

20835646.doc

Handwritten notations and stamps in the bottom right corner, including dates like 6/1/04, 6/13/04, and 6/23/04, and numbers like 302, 122, 730, 1043, 13, 48, 38.